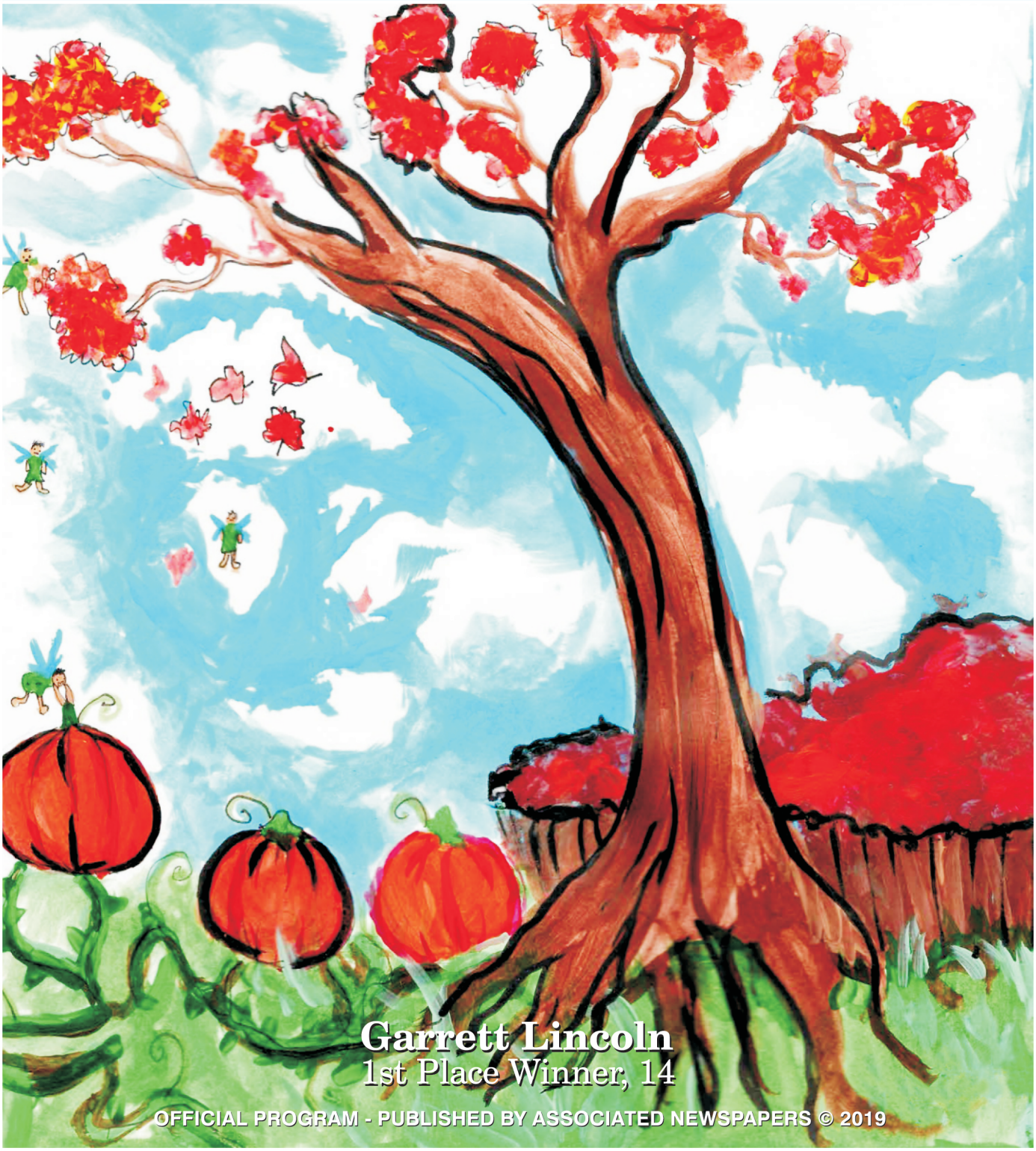
22ND ANNUAL
CITY OF ROMULUS DDA

ROMULUS PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

and Romulus Rotary PARADE OF LIGHTS

SEPTEMBER
20 AND 21, 2019



Garrett Lincoln
1st Place Winner, 14

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Welcome to Romulus

Mayor LeRoy Burcroff

Greetings neighbors, friends, guests and visitors!

Welcome to the 22nd Pumpkin Festival hosted by the Romulus Downtown Development Authority.

Each year, the City of Romulus hosts the one and only "Pumpkin Festival" in Wayne County. If you're visiting, we hope you get to know our city better and come back soon. Organizers and volunteers have worked since last year's festival to make sure everything is just right for our community and your entire family. There's entertainment, children's games, demonstrations and a variety of vendors.

Romulus is the "Home of Opportunity" - and the Pumpkin Festival is one of the reasons why. In addition to being a great place to live, work and operate a business, Romulus is a city for all seasons, featuring family-friendly events all year long. We host a fall festival in October, a holiday tree lighting, an Easter egg hunt, a summer concert series, free movies in the park, downtown farmers markets and so much more.

Thanks again to the many volunteers who, with our DDA and Festival Committee, work so hard to make the Festival a success. We also thank the local community organizations that participate and hope you'll support them by participating in their fundraisers throughout the weekend.

Thanks, especially, to our first responders and those working to insure the safety of the public. You will see a number of Romulus firefighters and police officers this weekend, and throughout our community all year long. Their hard work helps make our celebrations, and city, safe and enjoyable for all of us.

Have a great weekend,

LeRoy D. Burcroff, Mayor

www.romulusgov.com
www.facebook.com/CityofRomulus
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Bright lights begin traditional celebration

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

For the 22nd year, the Romulus Rotary Club will open the Annual Pumpkin Festival with the Parade of Lights.

The Romulus Rotary Parade of Lights, will begin promptly at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20 and travel up Goddard Road just west of Wayne Road, winding through downtown Romulus and ending at the corner of Goddard and Ozga roads.

Romulus Rotarian Brian Oakley is proud of the club involvement in the city and with the festival.

"I think all of the Rotarians involved

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Pumpkin Festival Events
Spaghetti Dinner at the Church
Saturday 5 – 7 p.m.

in the parade would list it as one of their favorite community events. The parade is a big part of the Festival weekend and something that thousands of folks look forward to every year. Being able to be part of this is very rewarding," Oakley, a judge at the 34th District Court said.

The Romulus Rotary Club, part of Rotary International, is active in other projects. Among those are awarding scholarships to high school students and giving a dictionary to every third-grade student in the community.

Rotary International is a worldwide service organization founded in the early 1900s in Chicago by the late Paul Harris, an attorney. It now works with partners in polio eradication and a plethora of other endeavors. A Rotary goal is the world-wide eradication of polio from the globe.

Club members are also involved in providing wells for safe and clean water,

maternal and child health, literacy, addressing food poverty, and more.

Specific Romulus Parade entrants are still being finalized. Previous parades have included: bicycles (both individuals and organized clubs), fire trucks, vintage cars and tractors, along with lots of youngsters including Scout troops, elementary school groups, as well as the Romulus High School Marching Band, a perennial favorite. Entries include commercial, motorized, non-motorized, class car, live music and school floats. The public has the opportunity to vote for their favorite entry. The winner last year was Barth Elementary School with a large, inflated unicorn traveling on a well-lit trailer.

A number of area churches usually have entries as well, said Oakley. There is no charge to enter the parade, the only restriction is that the vehicle must

See **Rotary,** page 6

Romulus
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Best Wishes

Dr. Flinnoia Hall, III
Acting Superintendent

(734) 532-1600
fhall@romulusk12.org
http: www.romulus.net

Our District Cares About Our Children And Community!

Come tour one of our Romulus Elementary Schools, Romulus Middle School, and Romulus High School. Get more information about our Adult Education, Accelerated Curriculum & Enrichment Program, Romulus Early Childhood Center, Romulus Virtual Learning Center, our Academic Programs, Latchkey Services and More!

Rotary from page 5

have lights. Headlights do not count. To join the parade, entrants must simply show up with their lighted entries at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the line-up area for staging where spots will be assigned. No-preregistration is necessary.

Internationally, Rotary has some 1.2 million members in some 35,000 clubs.

The service organization's members give some 16 million hours of volunteer hours each year. The Rotary International website of www.rotary.org provides information on the worldwide projects and major areas of service.

Rotary works toward world peace, in part by Rotary Peace Fellowships. Each year, Rotary awards up to 100 fully funded fellowships for leaders from around the world to study at one of the organization peace centers. More information about peace Fellowships can be found at the rotary.org website.

Rotary International also organizes its clubs into districts spanning international boundaries, to foster learning, peace and understanding. The Ann Arbor North Rotarians have, with partners, provided clean and safe toilets for women and children in rural India.

Other clubs help build schools with local partners. The Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. has done that in Africa's Ghana.

Rotarians have, in some communities, the high school Interact arm, as well as some college/young adult Rotaract groups.

Rotaract originally began as a Rotary International youth program in 1968 at the Charlotte North Rotary Club in Charlotte, North Carolina, and has grown into a major Rotary-sponsored organization of clubs spread around the world.

Locally, the Rotary District 6400 website is www.rotary6400.org.

Best Wishes
Ursula Wester
Romulus School Board Treasurer
Education is the passport to the future
Email: ulwester@romulusk12.org
Phone: 734-673-1926

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Historical Museum welcomes festival visitors

During the Romulus Pumpkin Festival the Romulus Historical Museum and the Samuel R. Kingsley House will be open to visitors at no charge.

The museum and house will be open to visitors from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20 and souvenirs will be available for sale on the grounds of the museum located at 11147 Hunt St., next to the post office in downtown Romulus, just east of the railroad.

Scheduled activities at the museum on Saturday include children's old-fashioned lawn games beginning at 11 a.m.

From 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. the museum will feature the first city ballot box from 1835 which will be on display. There will be checker contests, a Civil War display; a quilt display and hand quilting on a frame and quilt appraisals by Velia Lauerman.

A clown will entertain with games and balloons from 1 until 4 p.m. and there will be face painting for children by Tina Sorice from 3 until 5 p.m.

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History of famous White Church celebrated

The "White Church" at Five Points in Romulus has recently been recognized as a local historical site.

Romulus Wesleyan Church, described throughout the area as "the White Church" is the oldest church in the City of Romulus and has served the community for 164 years.

As far as can be determined, this church building started in 1855 and was dedicated in June, 1856. Logs for the building were drawn by oxen teams from a sawmill that stood on the southwest corner of what is now Grant and Wayne roads. The late Robert and Peter Bird, sons of Richard Bird, related incidents of helping to haul logs and lumber for the church, according to historical records.

A team of oxen was loaned for some of the log hauling by Robert A. Morris and his teen-age son, Hiram. The total cost of the building was $1,400, a huge sum of money for that time. Pastor salaries ranged from $137 to $407 per year.

Two denominations, the Wesleyan

The Scouts from Troop and Pack 872 would like to thank the community for all their wonderful support through the years. Thank you!!

If you would like to participate in the scouting experience, please contact Wayne Laginess (734) 223-5807 or Ken Beard (734) 941-7482.

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Pumpkin Festival,

Councilwoman Kathy Abdo
& Family

Methodists and the M.E. Church, joined together to erect the building. They called themselves the Romulus Union Church Society. The historic "White Church" was built in a grove on the Pullen Farm. The signing of the deed was witnessed by Mary Stofflet and G. W. Moore, the Justice of the Peace, and the purchase price of the property was $30.

The church became the center of spiritual, social, and political activities in the community. G. Morris in 1864 tells of going to the "White Church" to hear a lady speak on slavery. A notification from the same diary dated Nov. 27, 1864 speaks of his sister, Mary Jane Morris, marrying Peter C. Bird at the church.

Shortly after the Wesleyan Methodist Church celebrated its Centennial on June 19, 1955, a new addition was built on the north end of the original church. It was incorporated into the original structure because the feeling of the church and community was that the old church should be preserved as a landmark.

By Pearl Varner,
Romulus Historical Museum Director

BEST WISHES
Edward Martell
Romulus School Board,
Vice President

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Picture perfect

Student artists capture fall theme of festival

The work of the first-place winner of the annual Romulus Art Council contest for students can be seen on the cover of the program this year.

Each year, the Romulus Arts Council organizes an art competition for students with cash prizes and the first-place winner's work featured on the cover of the program for the Pumpkin Festival. Again this year, the Leo C. and Eva Roach family funded the cash awards of $200 for the first-place winner, $125 for the second place winner, $75 for the third place winner and $50 for each of the fourth and fifth place entries.

The winning art includes: First Place 2019-Garrett Lincoln; Second Place 2019-Nicco Lambert; Third Place 2019-Riley Lambert; Fourth Place 2019-Brielle Devine and Fifth Place 2019 Aleigha McClure.

Second Place - Nicco Lambert

Third Place - Riley Lambert

First Place - Garrett Lincoln

Fourth Place - Brielle Devine

Fifth Place - Aleigha McClure

Best Wishes
for a
Great Pumpkin Festival
Tina Talley
Councilwoman
ttalley@romulusgov.com

Have a Great Time
At the Romulus DDA
Pumpkin Festival

Councilwoman
Celeste Roscoe
& Family

ROMULUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE SAFETY FOR FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

Open House

Sunday, Oct. 6 • 11a.m. – 3p.m.

FIRE STATION #4
28 EUREKA

Please take the opportunity while attending this year's annual Pumpkin Festival to stop and chat with YOUR Firefighters we have welcomed several new faces this year. They will be happy to share with you some of the enhancements being made at the Stations! Be sure to mark your calendars for this year's Fire Department Open House Sunday October 6th.

Safety Tips for a Safe and Fun Event

- Be aware of your surroundings. If you're taking the kids, make sure you remember to have the "don't talk to strangers" talk one more time.
- Don't forget to hydrate, don't skip the H2O.
- In the event of a crowd disturbance, stay calm and remove yourself from the commotion.
- Please NO Pets, Bicycles, Scooters, Skates, and Skateboards, or any other items deemed unsafe or inappropriate for a community event.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Romulus Fire Department is to protect the quality of life for present and future generations through compassionate interaction with our community, and an atmosphere that encourages innovation, professionalism and unparalleled customer service.

CORE VALUES

Honor

Safety

Integrity

Compassion

Customer Service

VALUE statement

We Value Life
The safety of our Firefighters and our community will be the primary motivation for all of our actions.

We Value People
The well-being of our community is important to us. We do all we can to support those in need.

We Value Commitment
We are dedicated to providing the highest level of customer service through innovative training, education and equipment.

"Service to others with care and compassion"

CITY OF ROMULUS DDA

ROMULUS 22ND ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

and Romulus Rotary PARADE OF LIGHTS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, September 20, 2019

4 p.m.	Pumpkin Festival Officially Opens Craft vendors will be open till 8p.m. & Food vendors will be open till 10p.m.
6 p.m. - 1 a.m.	Pumpkin Pub serving beer and wine (Must be 21 to enter)
8 p.m.	Parade of Lights *(presented by the Romulus Rotary)*

Saturday, September 21, 2019

8 - 11:30 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast Boy Scout Troop #872
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	St. Aloysius White Elephant Sale 11280 Ozga Road
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Cruisin' 2019 Car Show
11 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Craft and Food vendors open
11 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Kid Zone inflatables area open
11a.m. - 5 p.m.	Pumpkin Painting Tent $3 to paint a pumpkin
Noon - 4 p.m.	Free Kids Games
3:30 p.m.	Punkin' Chuckin
5 - 6:30 p.m.	Spaghetti Dinners 11160 Olive St.
6 p.m. - 1 a.m.	Pumpkin Pub serving beer and wine (Must be 21 to enter)
8 p.m.	Festival closes

CONTEST WINNERS FOR CANNING, PIE BAKING, PUMPKIN GROWING AND SUNFLOWER GROWING WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON SATURDAY AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE HOSPITALITY TENT.

ROMULUS PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

CITY OF ROMULUS DDA

ROMULUS 22ND ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

and Romulus Rotary PARADE OF LIGHTS

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Friday,
September 20, 2019

6 - 8 p.m.	**DTour** (Main Stage)
9 -11 p.m.	**DTour** (Main Stage)
11 p.m. - 1 a.m.	**TBD** (Beer Tent)

Saturday,
September 21, 2019

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.	**Step in Line**
5 - 7 p.m.	**Karaoke with Jeff Lowery** (Freight House)
7 - 11 p.m.	**Just a Few Cats** *Co-founded by Grammy Nominated Songwriter Alvin Garrett and American Idol Winner Ruben Studdard. Studdard will not perform.* (Main Stage)
11 p.m. - 1 a.m.	**Karaoke with Jeff Lowery** (Beer Tent)

Popular D'Tour Band will entertain on Friday

The D'Tour Band will perform two shows during the Romulus Pumpkin Festival this year.

The band will perform from 6 until 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20 on the Main Stage at the Festival and then again from 9 until 11 p.m.

Members of the D'Tour Band are from "the heart of Detroit" according to the band website and their love of music and the arts is clearly evident in their stage performances.

The band members pride themselves on energetic performances that leave audiences cheering for more from the group. D'Tour performs a unique blend of music that "embodies the inventiveness and sense of community that defines the sound of Detroit."

D'Tour features the music of Motown, some R&B, along with a little contemporary music and jazz. The band members work to form a real connection with the audiences across the state and they have developed a reputation for high-energy, fun shows.

There is no charge for either of the Friday D'Tour performances.

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'Just a Few Cats' set to perform on Saturday

The Romulus Pumpkin Festival will host a well-traveled group of entertainers Saturday evening when the Birmingham, Alabama-based Just a Few Cats performs from 7-11 p.m. on the Main Stage.

Members of Just A Few Cats have been together for nearly 20 years and their unique sound has moved crowds and hearts. Just A Few Cats a.k.a. "The Cats," was co-founded in 2000 by the now Grammy nominated songwriter and producer, Alvin Garrett, and American Idol winner, Ruben Studdard. After Studdard's ascendancy to stardom in 2003, the band joined him as his supporting cast. The Cats also continued to build an electrifying new identity with Logan The Entertainer.

With Logan at the helm, Just A Few Cats became renowned for their non -stop performances that keep crowds dancing and celebrating. Members of the band have also accomplished amazing individual feats. Garrett has written hit songs for artists such as Joe, Kelly Rowland, and Fantasia; along with releasing his own hit record "By Myself." Keyboardist, John Jackson, is also a Grammy - nominated producer who has worked with Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis and a host of major recording artists.

Studdard will not be performing with the group at the festival. There is no charge for the Saturday performance.

Best Wishes
from
Mayor Pro Tem,
John Barden,
Mrs. Janice
Barden
& Family

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for a successful
Pumpkin Festival.

City Treasurer,
Stacy A. Paige
& Family

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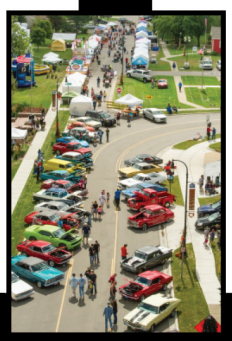
It takes a village…

If not a village, at least a very large group of dedicated volunteers who donate their time and effort each year to organizing all the events and features of the Romulus Pumpkin Festival. The committee was first organized in 1996 and this will be the 22nd year the members of the group have produced the annual celebration of autumn and the community. Members of the committee this year include, from left, back row, Doug O'Leary, Sharon Major, Merrie Druyor, Julie Wojtylko, Stacy Paige, Ron Witten, Kevin Martin, Laurie James, Chuck Finch. In the center row, from left, are Lisa Martin, Rose Swidan, Linda Collier, Kathy Lindroth, Maria Lambert, Carole Bales, Rosalie Berlinn and kneeling are, left, Jessica LaDuke, Riley Lambert, Nicco Lambert, and Zayden Witten. Not pictured are Julie Allison, Ellen Craig-Bragg, Kay Bressler, Rani Bressler, Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff, Sheldon Chandler, Lynn Conway, Jazmine Danci, Cathy Freitag, Roger Kadau (who is taking the picture), the Rev. Art Willis and Kevin Wojtylko.

Downtown Romulus and the Downtown Development Authority



The Romulus Downtown Development Authority , also referred to as the DDA, is a board of thirteen local business people and residents that together, with Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff, and our elected officials, work to promote the economic growth, development and revitalization of our City's original Central Business District.

These responsibilities include the development and implementation of long range plans for public facilities and infrastructure, the acquisition and disposal of property, the restoration and reservation of all buildings and the correction and prevention of deterioration.

The Downtown is also the home of our annual Romulus DDA Pumpkin Festival and Rotary Parade of Lights. Each year, on the third Friday in September, our festival begins with a night parade where everything is lighted, from unicycles to cement trucks. Thousands of people line Goddard Road to wait for the fun. Our street festival offers wonderful music, food, crafts and games for all ages. You can enter a pumpkin rolling, pumpkin pie eating or a pumpkin seed-spitting contest. Visit or enter our Classic Car Show, our classic Tractor Show or just relax and listen to music.

Our Downtown festival is a celebration of friends and family; a harvest celebration that generates enthusiastic spirit and regenerates our sense of community.

WELCOME TO DOWNTOWN ROMULUS!

The DDA is a Main Sponsor of the Romulus DDA Pumpkin Festival

Downtown Development Authority

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Jeremy Westcott Al Hindman Rachel Botu Kevin Higgins Doug O'Leary Rick Perry Doug Clark

Merrie Druyor, DDA Director

If you would like more information on any of our programs or would like to volunteer for one of our events, please contact Merrie Druyor at (734) 942-7545

Batter up

Boy Scouts serve special pancake breakfast at festival

One of the most highly anticipated events of the Romulus Pumpkin Festival for the past 15 years has been the Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast.

And Wayne Laginess, the Scout Leader of Boy Scout Troop 872 knows why.

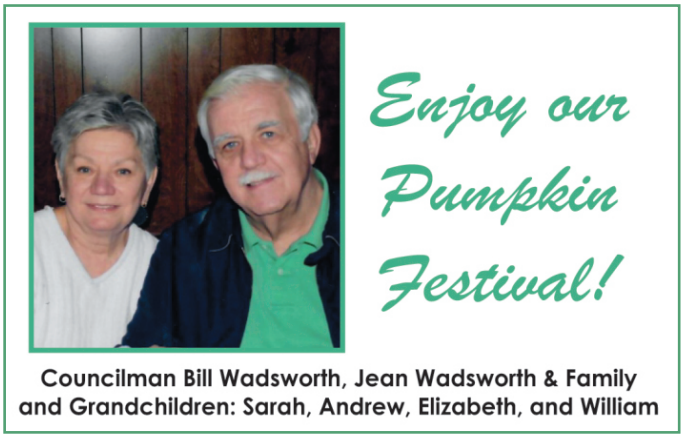
"These are the best pancakes you can get anywhere," he said. "I know that's true because I special order the pancake mix and you can't buy it in the store. These are the best pancakes you'll ever eat," he said.

The Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast will be served at Romulus Historical Park from 8 until 11:30 a.m. and for $6 includes coffee, juice, sausage and all-you-can-eat pancakes.

"We can't do all-you-can-eat sausage," Laginess said, "because it is just cost prohibitive with the quality we serve." Senior breakfasts are priced at $5 and children 4 and younger eat free with an adult breakfast purchase.

All the proceeds are used to ensure Scouting programs remain available to the boys of Romulus, including all-season camping, other outings, advancement materials and needed equipment, Laginess noted.

The Scouts meet in the school basement at St. Aloysius Church at 37200 Neville St., and the troop has been ongoing for more than 21 years, Laginess said. He added that the



troop has produced 20 Eagle Scouts in that time and six of those young men were special needs individuals.

The entire troop of both Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will be on hand for the pancake breakfast, helping to set up tables and get the "secret" batter prepared beginning at about 6 a.m. It takes an additional "troop" of 15-20 volunteers including parents and Scout leaders to help prepare the propane powered griddles, the washing stations and all the other equipment necessary to produce the breakfasts.

"It does take a lot of people," Laginess said, "there is a lot of work involved."

Troop 872 is always looking for new Scouts, Laginess said, and anyone interested can give him a call at (734) 223-5807 for more information.

"Best pancakes, anywhere," he concluded.

Pumpkin Festival stresses safety

Visitors to the Romulus Pumpkin Festival can be assured that there are some rules in effect to ensure that everyone at the event enjoys a safe environment.

Members of the Romulus City Council enacted a Special Events Ordinance (Number 99-151) several years ago which remains in effect.

The ordinance prohibits bringing any animal (including fish or reptiles) to the special event, whether with or without a leash, unless the animal is part of an event which has been authorized by the members of the city council. Dogs used as guide dogs or leader dogs for a person who is legally blind, a hearing dog for a deaf or audibly impaired person or a service dog for a physically limited person are permitted.

Bicycles or unicycles are also prohibited in the festival area. Bicycles or unicycles can be placed in the rack provided at the perimeter of the event.

No skateboard, roller skates, roller blades or any other similar devices are permitted in the special event area either.

Visitors to the festival should also not bring radios, tape players, stereos, boom boxes, speakers or any other device which transmits music or sound into the special event area.

Violations of the ordinance are a municipal civil infraction which carries a fine of $50 plus any costs, damages or expenses authorized under applicable law.

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Winning ways

Festival contests produce variety of community 'champions'

The 22nd Annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival will celebrate the history and community of the city Sept. 20 and 21 with entertainment and events designed to please all ages and interests.

Some of the most popular events at the parade are the annual culinary contests which allow area residents to submit their finest canned goods, pies and sunflowers for honors.

The winners of those various contests will all be announced as part of the festival at 12:30 Saturday, Sept. 20 in the Hospitality Tent during the festival. Entries in those contests celebrating the harvests of tomatoes, green beans, pickles and fruits already delivered their entries in the contest to the Romulus Senior Center. Winners in the canning contest last year included July Leland who won first place for her canned tomatoes and Jim and Sandy Chapman who won second-place honors. The Chapmans also won first place for their canned honey and another second place honor for their canned pickles. First place for canned pickles last year was awarded to Patrick and Liz Webb.

2018 First Place Cutest Boy, Finn and Cutest Girl, Aurora

This year, pie entries were limited to pumpkin, sweet potato, peach and apple pies.

And judges will again this year be looking for the largest

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ROMULUS PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

2018 2nd Place Cutest Boy, Wyatt and Cutest Girl, Emerson

First Place place cutest pet

Second Place cutest pet

pumpkin grown in Romulus and the largest and tallest sunflower in the contest. The Sunflower growing contest last year was won by Ray and Sherry Dubiski.

Another popular "competition" is the voting for the cutest baby and the cutest pet which allows residents to cast their votes for the various entries in the contest. Those winners will also be announced on Saturday.

Boy Scout Troop 872 will host a Pancake Breakfast from 8-11:30 a.m. Saturday, and there will be a White Elephant Sale at St. Aloysius Church, a Car Show, craft and food vendors, a Kid Zone of inflatables, a Pumpkin Painting Tent, children's games, the famous Punkin' Chuckin' contest and the Spaghetti Dinner from 5-6:30 p.m. Saturday at Community United Methodist Church.

The Pumpkin Pub will be open serving beer and wine from 6 p.m. until 1 a.m. both Friday and Saturday.

Festival organizers said they expect large crowds for the annual community event celebrating fall again this year.

The downtown festival is a celebration of friends and family and is a harvest celebration that generates enthusiastic spirit and regenerates the sense of community, committee members said.

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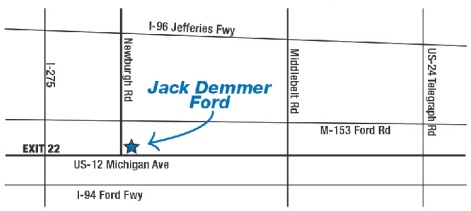

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